Council on Postsecondary Education Committee on Equal Opportunities February 20, 2006

Follow-up Report: University of Kentucky Enrollment of African American Students

At its October 17, 2005, meeting, the committee received a report from Dr. William Turner, Mr. Terry Allen, and Dr. Phillip Kraemer of the University of Kentucky summarizing the university's analysis of the underlying causes of the slippage in the enrollment of African Americans in the fall 2005 incoming class as compared to the class that enrolled in fall 2004 and outlining activities to be implemented by the university to address the problem. The university noted that it had admitted more students in 2005 than in other years (i.e., in 2005, 757 students applied, 360 were admitted and, 151 enrolled). The committee asked the university representatives to look at several questions and report back the findings. Questions raised by the committee:

- If the university admitted significantly more students than those who enrolled, where did the other students enroll and what were their reasons for choosing not to enroll at UK after having applied for admission?
- Does UK have a plan in place to follow-up with students once they are admitted to ensure that they enroll? If so, what happened that caused the follow-up program to fail to detect the problem encountered with fall 2005?

The university was also asked to address these additional questions:

- Describe the role of the committee established by the president to review the enrollment concerns and related issues and present recommendations by December 2006.
- How has the university responded to the inquiry by State Representative Darryl Owens regarding its efforts to enroll African American students?
- What improvements are expected with the incoming class of fall 2006? Will the special committee make recommendations that will impact the current incoming class?
- Describe the relationship between the special committee, the admissions office, and the Office of Employment Equity (UK representative to the CEO).